PRELIMINARY NOTICE

A further study of 125 cross sections of the femora of as many lower animals has been continued in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, during the present summer. The list includes amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. This makes over 300 femora so far examined, one hundred of which are human.

Important variations occur. The lower animals furnish the key to the surprising variations which are found in man. The amphibians are pretty true to their lamellar type. The reptiles seem to show divergence. The lizard group retains the amphibian lamellae, the alligator and some turtles have departed from it and show a crude system formation. Some birds conform to the lamellar, some to the laminar and some to the Haversian system type. A much larger number of mammals belong to the laminar type than was expected. Mammalian species often show a high and low type. For example, the African Elephant is composed entirely of Haversian system, high; the Asiatic, of Haversian systems, laminae, and lamellae in about equal parts, low. The hippopotamus, rhinoceros, giraffe, wart hog, water buffalo, camel, armadillo are low.

It is the intention of the writer to publish articles on the subject as soon as the sections can be drawn and described.

Creighton Med. College. J. S. Foote.

MICROBIOLOGY

This compact manual, which is now in its second edition, is an exceedingly timely resumè of a field which is of prime interest to members of this Society. The book is the product of a large number of collaborators, whose work has been brought together under the editorship of Professor Charles E. Marshall. While such books are always subject to some unevenness and repetition and lack of unity as compared with the work of a single author, there is here at least a compensating gain in authoritativeness in a wide range of material.

The book is divided into three general parts: Morphology and Culture of Microörganisms; Physiology of Microörganisms; and Applied Microbiology.

The editor has made an effort to present the fundamental facts